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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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Action Memorandum No. A-57

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Date 27 September 1962

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TO: The General Counsel

SUBJECT: Early Retirement Legislation

1. In view of our inability to secure the passage of our early retirement legislation during this session of Congress, it is mandatory that we exert every effort to insure our success in the first session of the 88th Congress. The fact that only a little over three months remain between now and the opening of that Congress makes it important that we get our preparatory work completed at the earliest possible time.

2. As I see it the following remains to be done:

a. Completion of the draft of the legislation to include all of the other items which we wanted in the law, which we did not have time to include in our original draft, e.g. a proviso permitting the Director to accept gifts in order that we can set up our own scholarship fund.

b. Well before the Congress convenes, we should make a concerted effort to contact every member of the Armed Services Committees and other key members of the Congress to explain to them the bill, why we need it, and answer any inquiries they might have about the Agency which might inhibit their backing the bill. I am thinking particularly of the unexpected monkey wrench which Porter Hardy threw into our efforts this last session. I believe that if properly allocated among the members of the staff of the Legislative Council, the Executive Committee and other senior officers of the Agency we should be able to make dozens of valuable converts before January.

c. We should also insure that the appropriate staff members of all of the interested committees are thoroughly briefed on the legislation, and to this I would add the appropriate personnel in the Executive branch, particularly the White House, Bureau of the Budget, and Civil Service Commission, as well as our friends in State and Defense.

3. I feel that it is most important that we do all this work before January inasmuch as once the Congress convenes, there will be weeks lost on organization followed by the annual scrimmage on the budget and then the rush for adjournment.

/s/

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

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